

In the Specification:

The paragraph beginning at page 1, line 26 has been amended as follows:

The current collector of the present invention is useful in both cell types for either ~~both~~ primary or and secondary chemistries cell and has a unique grid structure comprised of a frame supporting a plurality of radial strands as conductors radiating outwardly from a focal point on a connector tab. The frame and radial conductors are maintained in a fan-like and generally planar orientation with respect to each other by two groups of concentric conductor strands, one located adjacent to the tab, the other spaced a substantial distance therefrom. While the spaced apart groups of concentric conductor strands maintain proper spacing and structural integrity for the current collector grid, the radiating conductors provide a more direct path to the connector tab for electron flow. This results in the current collector having reduced internal resistance in comparison to conventional current collector designs.

The paragraph beginning at page 8, line 1 has been amended as follows:

In the current collector 10 shown, the substantial distance between the two groups of radial conductors is measured along upper frame stand 20. However, it is contemplated by the scope of the present invention that the current collector need not necessarily have the generally rectangular frame shape shown. Instead, the frame can be squared, circular, or of some other irregular shape ~~shaped~~ dictated by the design requirements of a specific cell construction. No matter what the specific shape of the current collector, according to the present invention, it has a series of radial conductors fanning out from a focal point and supported by spaced apart first and second groups of concentric conductors with the distance between the two groups of concentric conductors being at least "x", as measured in some direction from the focal point. A single concentric conductor is sufficient to constitute a group for the purpose of this invention.

The paragraph beginning at page 9, line 10 has been amended as follows:

Fig. 3 shows the exemplary electrochemical cell 100 useful with either one of the current collectors 10, 12. For sake of clarity, the single wing collector 10 is shown. The cell includes a casing 102 having spaced apart front and back side walls (not shown) joined by side walls 104 and 106 and a planar bottom wall 108. The junctions between the various side walls and bottom wall are curved. A lid 110 closes the open top of the casing 102 ~~The open top of the casing 102 is closed by a lid 110.~~ Lid 110 has an opening 112 that serves as a port for filling an electrolyte (not shown) into the casing after the cell's ~~cell~~ internal components have been assembled therein and lid 110 has been sealed to the side walls. In the final and fully assembled condition, a sealing plug, such as a ball 114, is hermetically sealed in the electrolyte fill opening 112 to close the cell in a gas tight manner. The casing 102, lid 110 and sealing ball 114 are preferably of a conductive material. Suitable materials include nickel, aluminum, stainless steel, mild steel, nickel plated mild steel and titanium. Preferably, the casing, lid and sealing ball are of the same material.

The paragraph beginning at page 11, line 13 has been amended as follows:

A more thorough and complete discussion of a cell construction having a current collector comprising wing-like portions which are folded into electrical association ~~assistance~~ with a central electrode of an opposite polarity is shown in U.S. Patent No. 5,312,458 to Muffoletto et al. This patent is assigned to the assignee of the present invention and incorporated herein by reference.

The paragraph beginning at page 12, line 5 has been amended as follows:

Current collector 150 is comprised of wire or bar-shaped conductor strands in the shape of a frame 152 surrounding a grid 154 and supporting a tab 156. The frame 152 has spaced apart upper and lower strands 158 and 160 extending to and meeting with left and right strands 162 and 164. Upper frame strand 158 meets left frame strand 162 at curved corner 166, left frame strand 162 meets lower frame strand 160 at curved corner 168 and lower frame strand 160 meets right frame strand 164 at curved corner 170.